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Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)
BELL ATLANTIC NEW ZEALAND HOLDINGS, INC.) File No
And))
PACIFIC TELECOM INC.))
Application for Approval to Transfer Control of GTE Pacifica Inc. and Micronesian Telecommunications Corporation, Holding Blanket Domestic 214 Authorization))))
Under Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as Amended, to Pacific Telecom Inc.)))

JOINT APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF CONTROL OF DOMESTIC 214 AUTHORITY

Bell Atlantic New Zealand Holdings, Inc. ("BANZHI" or "Transferor") and Pacific Telecom Inc. ("Pacific Telecom" or "Transferee") (collectively "the Applicants"), by their undersigned counsel, and pursuant to Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214 (the "Act"), Section 63.01 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.01, and the Commission's *July 20, 2001 Public Norice* regarding Section 214 authorization for acquisitions of corporate control,' hereby request authority to transfer control of GTE Pacifica Inc. ("GTE Pacifica") and Micronesian Telecommunications Corporation ("MTC" or "parent company") (collectively "Licensees"), each a holder of blanket domestic interstate 214

¹ See Common Carrier Bureau Announces Procedures for Applicants Requiring Section 214 Authorization for Acquisitions of Corporate Control, Public Norice, DA 01-1654 (rel. July 20, 2001) ("July 20, 2001, Public Norice").

authorization, from BANZHI to Pacific Telecorn. As described below, and pursuant to grant of this Application, Pacific Telecom will acquire 100% of the outstanding capital stock of MTC, the sole shareholder of GTE Pacifica, thus effecting a transfer of control of Licensees from BANZHI to Pacific Telecom.²

Pursuant to the Commission's *July* 20, *2001 Public Notice*, and its *January* 17.2002

Public Notice, the Applicants set forth the following information in support of this Application:

I. THE PARTIES

A. BANZHI, MTC, and GTE Pacifica

Verizon Communications Inc. ("Verizon"), through a series of wholly owned subsidiaries, owns 100% of the outstanding common stock of BANZHI, a corporation organized under the laws of Delaware. BANZHI is the current shareholder of MTC, the parent corporation of GTE Pacifica. MTC, as the incumbent local exchange carrier, provides interstate exchange access services in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ("CNMI"), and thus holds a blanket domestic Section 214 authorization pursuant to Section 63.01 of the Commission's rules. GTE Pacifica, a wholly owned subsidiary of MTC, is a separate entity that provides

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² Simultaneous with this Application, BANZHI and Pacific Telecom are filing applications to transfer control of two international Section 214 authorizations, a cable landing license, two earth station licenses and a cellular license held by GTE Pacifica. A list of all licenses and authorizations being transferred is attached hereto. Pacific Telecom has also separately requested authority to exceed the 25 percent indirect foreign ownership limitation of Section 310(b)(4) of the Act.

³ See Common Currier Bureau Issue Reminder to Providers of Domestic Telecommunications Services to Request Authorization Under Section 214 Price to Enguging in a Transfer of Corporate Control, Public Notice, CC Docket No. 01-150, DA 02-162 (rel. Jan. 17, 2002) (reminding the public that the July 20, 2001 public notice describes the appropriate content for domestic interstate applications for transfers of control by domestic interstate common carriers, and stating that applications that do not compon with the Common Carrier Bureau's July 20,2001 public notice may not be acceptable for filing) ("January 17, 2002 Public Notice"). Applicants note that the Commission recently adopted significant changes to its procedures and filing requirements for the transfer of control/assignment ofdomestic Section 214 authorizations, which may become effective while Commission action on this application is pending. The information required under the new rules is substantially provided herein. See Implementation of Further Streamlining Measures for Domestic Section 214 Authorizations, Report and Order, CC Docket No. 01-150, FCC 02-78, ¶16 and App. B. (to be codified at 47 C.F.R. \$63.04) ("Streamlining Report ond Order").

competitive interexchange service in the CNMI and Guam, and also holds blanket domestic interstate Section 214 authorization pursuant to Section 63.01 of the Commission's rules.

B. Pacific **Telecom**

Pacific Telecom is a privately held corporation incorporated under the laws of the CNMI.

Pacific Telecom does not currently provide domestic communications services or hold any

Section 214 authorization.

II. DESCRIPTION OF THE TRANSACTION

By this Application, BANZHI and Pacific Telecom seek Commission approval for a direct transfer of control of MTC and an indirect transfer of control of GTE Pacifica, which will result from a capital stock acquisition of the current shareholder and parent company of GTE Pacifica, MTC. Specifically, Pacific Telecom will acquire 100% of the outstanding capital stock of MTC from BANZHI, the current shareholder of MTC. BANZHI is indirectly owned and controlled by Verizon through a series of wholly owned subsidiaries. The proposed transaction will result in a direct transfer of control of domestic Section 214 authorization holder MTC and, in turn, will result in an indirect transfer of control of domestic Section 214 authorization holder GTE Pacifica, from BANZHI to Pacific Telecom. Thus, upon consummation of the transaction, Pacific Telecom directly will own 100% of the equity and voting interests in MTC and indirectly will own 100% of the equity and voting interests in GTE Pacifica. Post-consummation, MTC and GTE Pacifica will continue to offer the services currently offered to customers under existing service arrangements.

After completion of this transaction, the following persons or entities will hold a ten percent (10%) or greater ownership interest in GTE Pacifica:

Name: The Micronesian Telecommunications Corporation

Address: P.O. Box 500306

Saipan, MP 96950

Citizenship: USA/CNMI Corporation

Percentage Held: 100% equity

Principal Business: Communications Investment and Telecommunications

Services

The following person will hold a ten percent (10%) or greater ownership interest in MTC.

Name: Pacific Telecom Inc.

c/o Colin M. Thompson

Address: P.O. Box 501280

Saipan, MP 96950

Citizenship: USA/CNMI Corporation

Percentage Held: 100%

Principal Business: Communications Investment

The following persons or entities will hold **a** direct ownership interest in Pacific Telecom and **a** ten percent (10%) or greater indirect ownership interest in GTE Pacifica and MTC upon consummation of the proposed transaction.

Name: Prospector Investment Holdings Inc. Address: c/o Trident Trust (Cayman) Ltd.

One Capital Place PO *Box* 847

Grand Cayman, B.W.I.

Percentage Held: 50% equity

Citizenship: U.K./Cayman Island Corporation Principal Business: Communications Investment

Name: THC Communications Corporation

Address: P.O. Box 501280

Saipan, MP 96950

Percentage Held: 30% equity

Citizenship: USNCNMI Corporation
Principal Business: Communications Investment

Name: Missouri Holdings Corporation

Address: P.O. Box 712

Saipan, MP 96950

Percentage Held: 20% equity

Citizenship: USNCNMI Corporation
Principal Business: Communications Investment

The following persons or entities will hold an indirect ownership interest in Pacific Telecom and a ten percent (10%) or greater indirect ownership interest in GTE Pacifica and MTC upon consummation of the proposed transaction.

Name: Jose Ricardo Delgado Address: 4/F SGV II Building

6758 Ayala **Avenue** Makati City, Philippines

Percentage Held: 20% equity Citizenship: Philippines Principal Business: Individual

Name: Ricardo C. Delgado Address: 4/F SGV II Building

6758 Ayala **Avenue** Makati City, Philippines

Percentage Held: 30% equity Citizenship: Philippines Principal Business: Individual

Name: Tan Holdings Corporation

Address: P.O. Box 501280

Saipan, MP 96950

Percentage Held: 30% equity

Citizenship: U.S.A./C.N.M.I. Corporation Principal Business: Communications Investment

Name: Siu Lin Tan (Trustee and beneficiary of various Tan Family

trusts)

Address: P.O. Box 501280

Saipan, MP 96950

Percentage Held: 30% equity Citizenship: U.S.A./C.N.M.I.

Principal Business: Trust/Communications Investment

Name: Michael Leung Address: P.O. Box 500712

Saipan, MP 96950

Percentage Held: 20% equity Citizenship: Canada Principal Business: Individual

111. DESC [ION OF SERVICES THE PARTIES P | VIDE AND LOCATIONS WHE HOSE SERVICES ARE P]

GTE Pacifica Inc. provides a variety of competitive domestic long distance services, including inter-island communications between the CNMI and Guam and communications

between the CNMI and the continental **U.S.**MTC serves as the local exchange carrier in CNMI and provides competitive domestic interstate exchange access service in CNMI..

IV. PUBLIC INTEREST STATEMENT

Consummation of the proposed transaction is in the public interest. The Transferee's shareholders are companies with a strong presence in the Pacific region, giving them substantial community of interest with the CNMI, the temtory served by GTE Pacifica. In particular, the principals of the transferee's fifty percent shareholder, Prospector Investment Holdings Inc., have substantial experience in building and operating a telecommunications carrier (since divested) in the Philippines. Additionally, indirect thirty percent shareholder, Tan Holdings Corporation, is a CNMI company that is the largest private employer and taxpayer in the CNMI. This aspect of local ownership will benefit GTE Pacifica and its customers. Moreover, as Transferee and its affiliates are not currently telecommunications carriers, the transaction results in no increase in concentration in the relevant markets.⁴

V. CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO RULES 1.2001-1.2003

As evidenced by the signatures of the parties to this Application, no party to this Application is subject to a denial of Federal benefits pursuant to Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 (21 U.S.C. § 853(a)).

VI. <u>CORRESPONDENCE CONCERNING THIS APPLICATION SHOULD BE SENT</u> TO:

For Bell Atlantic New Zealand Holdings, Inc.:

Peter D. Shields

-

Indeed, the Commission has determined that such transactions are "unlikely to raise public interest concerns" and will be subject to the Commission's new streamlined processing rules. See Streamlining Report and Order ¶ 29; see also id. ¶ 33 ("transfer of incumbent LEC local exchange assets are unlikely to raise the potential of competitive harm").

Jennifer Hindin
Wiley Rein & Fielding LLP
1776 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
Taly (202) 710, 7000

Tel: (202) 719-7000 Fax: (202) 719-7049

with copies to:

Stephen B. Heimann Associate General Counsel Verizon Communications Inc. 1717 Arch Street, 32nd Floor Philadelphia, PA 19103

Tel: (215) 963-6437 Fax: (215) 963-9195

For Pacific Telecom Inc.:

Kenneth D. Patrich Timothy J. Cooney Wilkinson **Barker** Knauer, LLP 2300 N Street, NW Suite 700 Washington, DC 20037

Tel: (202) 783-4141 **Fax:** (202) 783-5851

with copies to:

Jose Ricardo Delgado Citadel Holdings, Inc. 4/F SGV II Building 6758 Ayala **Avenue** Makati City, Philippines Tel: (632) 812-7711

Fax: (632) 812 7719

and:

Colin M. Thompson Pacific Telecom Inc. P.O. Box 501280 Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 322-2866 Fax: (670) 322-4716

VII. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

For the reasons stated herein, Bell Atlantic New Zealand Holdings, Inc. and Pacific Telecom Inc. respectfully submit that the public interest, convenience and necessity would be furthered by grant of this Application for consent to an indirect transfer of control of the blanket domestic interstate Section 214 authorization held by GTE Pacifica and direct transfer of control of the blanket domestic Section 214 Authorization held by MTC, to Pacific Telecom.

Respectfully submitted,

BELL ATLANTIC NEW ZEALAND HOLDINGS, INC.

Rν.

Christopher M. Bennett General Counsel and Secretary Bell Atlantic New Zealand Holdings, Inc. 1095 Avenue of the Americas, Rm. # 3828 New York, NY 10036 PACIFIC TELECOMING.

By.

George Chiu
Director and Authorized
Representative
Pacific Telecom Inc.
P.O. Box 501280
Saipan, MP 96950

Dated: April 10, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

BELL ATLANTIC NEW ZEALAND HOLDINGS, INC.

Вy:

Christopher M. Bennett General Counsel and Secretary Bell Atlantic New Zealand Holdings, Inc. 1095 Avenue of the Americas, Rm. # 3826 New York, NY 10036 PACIFIC TELECOM INC.

Ву:

George Chiu
Director and Authorized
Representative
Pacific Telecom, Inc.
P.O.Box 501280
Saipan, MP 56950

Dated: April 10, 2002

EXHIBIT 1

FCC Authorizations Held **by** Micronesian Telecommunications Corporation and **GTE**Pacifica Inc.

International Section 214 Authorizations

1TC-214-19970502-00247;214 Authorization for Facilities-Based and ResaleITC-ASG-I 997121 1-00776;(Switched and Private Line Non-Interconnected andITC-97-779-ALInterconnected where lawful), excluding the Dominican

ITC-97-288 Republic and Venezuela (GTE Pacifica)

ITC-ASG-19971211-00778; 214 Authorization to Construct and Operate the MTC

ITC-97-778-AL Interisland Cable System Between the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam Granted By ITC-92-140 [8 FCC Red 750 (1993)] (GTE Pacifica)

Cable Landing License

SCL-92-003-AL Cable Landing License to Land and Operate the MTC

Interisland Cable System Between the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam Granted by SCL-92-003 [8 FCC Rcd 750 (1993)] (GTE Pacifica)

Earth Station Authorizations

SES-LIC-20000414-00563; C-band transmit/receive earth station to provide digital

E000164 voice/data services (GTE Pacifica)

SES-RWL-20001006-01900: C-band transmit/receive earth station to provide digital

Ka-34 voice/data services (GTE Pacifica)

Wireless Telecommunications Authorization

KNKN616 Common Carrier Radio License for Cellular Radio

Telephone Service (GTE Pacifica)

<u>Domestic Section 214 Authorization</u>

Blanket Authorization Domestic Interstate 214 Authorization for CNMI and

Guam Inter-exchange Camer Operations (GTE Pacifica)

Blanket Authorization Domestic Interstate 214 Authorization for CNMI Local

Exchange Carrier Operations (Micronesian

Telecommunications Corporation)